

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, BL

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA

1. BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE DELIVERED TO THE GOB AUGUST 4, WE
HAVE ADVISED THAT WE ARE CONTINUING RELATIONS WITH THE NEW
GOVERNMENT. THE TEXT OF THE DIPLOMATIC NOTE FOLLOWS:

QUOTE I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE NOTE
OF JULY 24 FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS BY WHICH
THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WAS INFORMED
THAT GENERAL JUAN PEREDA ABSUN HAD ASSUMED THE PRESIDENCY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOLIVIA AND A CABINET HAD BEEN
APPOINTED; THAT HIS GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES TRANQUILITY
THROUGHOUT BOLIVIAN TERRITORY AND HAS DECLARED ITS
PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A FREE POLITICAL SYSTEM WITH
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DEMOCRATIC FOUNDATIONS AND WITH FULL POPULAR PARTICIPATION
ORIGINATING FROM THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE; THAT IT WILL
RESPECT ALL INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS TO
WHICH BOLIVIA IS A PARTY; AND THAT IT WISHES TO CONTINUE
THE CORDIAL RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE
PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS. I HAVE THE FURTHER HONOR TO
INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED

STATES WISHES TO RECIPROCATATE THE DESIRE EXPRESSED BY
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF

BOLIVIA TO CONTINUE THESE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO
COUNTRIES. END QUOTE

2. WE PRESUME THE GOB WILL LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THE U.S.
HAS CONTINUED RELATIONS. IF QUESTIONED BY THE PRESS,
THE DEPARTMENT WILL RESPOND AS BELOW:

A. QUESTION - HAS THE U.S. RECOGNIZED THE NEW BOLIVIAN
GOVERNMENT?

ANSWER - WE HAVE INFORMED THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT THAT WE
WILL CONTINUE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH IT. WHEN WE
CONTINUE RELATIONS WITH A COUNTRY, AS IN THIS INSTANCE,
IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF RECOGNI-
TION AND IT HAS NOT BEEN OUR PRACTICE TO DO SO.

B. QUESTION - DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE U.S. SUPPORTS THE
NEW REGIME?

ANSWER - CONTINUATION OF RELATIONS IMPLIES NEITHER
APPROVAL NOR DISAPPROVAL OF THE NATURE OR PROGRAMS OF A
NEW GOVERNMENT.

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C. QUESTION - WHAT THEN IS THE US POSITION ON DEVELOP-
MENTS IN BOLIVIA?

ANSWER - WE PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED OUR REGRET AT THE EVENTS
WHICH INTERRUPTED THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. HOWEVER, WE
NOTE THE ANNOUNCED INTENTION OF THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT
TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO ESTABLISH A FREE POLITICAL
SYSTEM BASED ON THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL BOLIVIANS. WE
HOPE THAT THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIZATION, STARTED UNDER
PRESIDENT BANZER, WILL BE RESUMED AND WILL REACH FRUITION
UNDER PRESIDENT PEREDA. VANCE

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